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COVER NOTE

From:	Secretary-General of the European Commission, signed by Ms Martine DEPREZ, Director
To:	Mr Jeppe TRANHOLM-MIKKELSEN, Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union
No. Cion doc.:	COM(2020) 770 final
Subject:	ANNEX to the Proposal for a COUNCIL DECISION on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, of the Protocol amending the Agreement on the international occasional carriage of passengers by coach and bus (Interbus Agreement) by extending the possibility of accession to the Kingdom of Morocco

Delegations will find attached document COM(2020) 770 final.

Encl.: COM(2020) 770 final



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Brussels, 30.11.2020
COM(2020) 770 final

ANNEX

ANNEX

to the Proposal for a

COUNCIL DECISION

on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, of the Protocol amending the Agreement on the international occasional carriage of passengers by coach and bus (Interbus Agreement) by extending the possibility of accession to the Kingdom of Morocco

PROTOCOL

**AMENDING THE AGREEMENT ON THE INTERNATIONAL OCCASIONAL
CARRIAGE OF PASSENGERS BY COACH AND BUS (INTERBUS AGREEMENT) BY
EXTENDING THE POSSIBILITY OF ACCESSION TO THE KINGDOM OF MOROCCO**

THE CONTRACTING PARTIES,

HAVING REGARD to the Agreement on the international occasional carriage of passengers by coach and bus (Interbus Agreement)¹ and its entry into force on 1 January 2003²,

HAVING REGARD to the desire to further develop international passenger transport relations, tourism and cultural exchange beyond those countries currently eligible for accession,

WISHING to open the Interbus Agreement for accession to the Kingdom of Morocco,

CONSIDERING that the Protocol amending the Agreement on the international occasional carriage of passengers by coach and bus (Interbus Agreement) by extending the possibility of accession to the Kingdom of Morocco ('the Protocol on the Kingdom of Morocco') was open for signature in Brussels between 16 July 2018 and 16 April 2019,

RECOGNIZING that during the above period, not all Contracting Parties signed the Protocol on the Kingdom of Morocco,

WISHING to allow all Contracting Parties to be able to sign the Protocol,

CONSIDERING that it would be more appropriate for the Protocol on the Kingdom of Morocco to enter into force once all Contracting Parties to the Interbus Agreement have ratified the Protocol,

Whereas:

- (1) The Interbus Agreement is open for accession only to members of the European Conference of Ministers of Transport (ECMT) and to certain other European countries as set out in that Agreement.
- (2) The Kingdom of Morocco, while having observer status in the ECMT, is not a member thereof nor otherwise entitled to accede to the Interbus Agreement at this stage.
- (3) In order to open the Interbus Agreement for accession to the Kingdom of Morocco, the Interbus Agreement should be amended,

HAVE DECIDED to amend the Interbus Agreement accordingly, and

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

In Article 30 of the Agreement on the international occasional carriage of passengers by coach and bus (Interbus Agreement), paragraph 2 is replaced by the following:

¹ OJ L 321, 26.11.2002, p. 13.

² OJ L 321, 26.11.2002, p. 44.

"This Agreement shall also be open to accession by the Republic of San Marino, the Principality of Andorra, the Principality of Monaco and the Kingdom of Morocco."

GENERAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 2

This Protocol shall be open for signature by the Contracting Parties to the Interbus Agreement at the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union which shall act as the Depositary of the Protocol.

Article 3

This Protocol shall be signed, approved or ratified by the signatories in accordance with their own procedures. The instruments of approval or ratification shall be deposited with the Depositary of the Protocol which shall notify all other Contracting Parties.

Article 4

This Protocol shall enter into force on the first day of the month following that in which all Contracting Parties have deposited their instruments of approval or ratification with the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union.

Article 5

This Protocol, drawn up in the English, French and German languages, each of these texts being equally authentic, shall be deposited with the Depositary which shall transmit a certified true copy to each of the Contracting Parties.

Article 6

Each Contracting Party shall ensure a proper translation of this Protocol in its official language(s) other than the authentic languages referred to in Article 5. A copy of each of these translations shall be deposited with the Depositary which shall transmit a copy of all such translations to each of the Contracting Parties.

Article 7

This Protocol replaces the Protocol to the Agreement on the international occasional carriage of passengers by coach and bus (Interbus Agreement) by extending the possibility of accession to the Kingdom of Morocco, which was open for signature between 16 July 2018 and 16 April 2019. The previous Protocol shall no longer have any legal value.

Done at Brussels,

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the undersigned plenipotentiaries have signed this Protocol.

Open for signature in Brussels.

For the European Union

For the Republic of Albania

For the Principality of Andorra

For Bosnia and Herzegovina

For the Republic of Moldova

For Montenegro

For the Republic of North Macedonia

For the Republic of Turkey

For Ukraine